



March 2016

Ranger Roundup

Diane Taliaferro, Silver City District Ranger

It is hard to believe that I have been in Silver City as the District Ranger for about 18 months. It seems that once the holidays end we hit the ground running with numerous projects. I have enjoyed getting to meet local folks who have retired, outfitters, range permittees, trail groups, civic and county officials, university staff and becoming involved in community events. I thought I would share a few priorities for this coming year besides Forest Plan revision and travel management implementation.

Cameron Creek Prescribed Fire

The Cameron Creek Prescribed Fire is approximately 3,400 acres of which 2,010 acres are planned for this year. The project is located within the Fort Bayard Game Management Area eight miles northeast of Silver City. Vegetation within the project area consists of pinyon/juniper, oak, mahogany and ponderosa pine. Primary objectives of the project are to improve wildlife habitat and watershed health, protect riparian corridors and return fire to the landscape.

The project is supported by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Big Game Enhancement Funds and is a great opportunity to collaborate with Volunteer Fire

Departments, as well as civic and county organizations. A community meeting was held in Feb. to discuss the burn.

A helicopter will be used for aerial ignitions and unit boundaries have already been identified on old roads and trails. There will be a closure order in the vicinity of the burn although the Dragonfly Trail will still be accessible.



Current Conditions



Bear Mountain Segment



C-Bar Trailhead

CDT Re-routes and Trailheads

Silver City became the first designated gateway community for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (CDNST) in 2014. This has sparked great interest in completing the trail and providing better trailhead access. Nine trail re-routes for about 19 miles were identified which extend through the Burro Mountains to near Little Walnut. Many of the current segments are currently on roads. The 2009 CDNST Comprehensive Plan states, "As the CDNST is further developed, it is expected that the trail will eventually be relocated off of roads for its entire length and the trail will be for non-motorized recreation." We are also working with partners and stakeholders to enhance and improve four to six trailheads for adequate parking for cars and horse trailers. We expect to have a scoping letter out and complete corridor mapping by the end of the month. We look forward to your input and participation.

Save the Date!

The 2016 Trail Days Annual CDT Kickoff Celebration is coming April 15-17. There will be demonstrations, booths, hikes, presentations and much more. We hope to see you there!



2015 Trail Days